

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (New) A protective boot wearable over a shoe or a boot and made from a foldable material, the protective boot comprising:

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a foot-covering portion having a heel end and a toe end, said foot-covering portion being a single piece of foldable material which may be folded onto itself from the toe end towards the heel end;

an ankle-covering portion, said ankle-covering portion together with said foot-covering portion defining a closed pouch allowing entry into the protective boot only through an opening in said ankle-covering portion;

a fastener on the foot-covering portion adapted to fasten said folded toe end to said foot-covering portion when folded onto itself, whereby the foot-covering portion can be adjustably sized.

13. (New) The protective boot of claim 12, further comprising a wear-resistant sole secured to the bottom of said foot-covering portion from said heel end to said toe end, said wear-resistant sole being folded up around said toe when said foot-covering portion is folded onto itself.

14. (New) The protective boot of claim 12 wherein the fastening means fastens the foot-covering portion onto itself when and where folded onto itself.

15. (New) The protective boot of claim 12 having means for fastening the foot-covering portion to itself when and where folded onto itself.

16. (New) The protective boot of claim 12 having means for fastening the foot-covering portion to itself when and where folded onto itself, at any one of plural positions.

17. (New) The protective boot of claim 12 having means for fastening the foot-covering portion releasably to itself when and where folded onto itself, at any one of plural positions, whereby the foot-covering portion can be adjustably sized.

18. (New) The protective boot of claim 12 having hook-and-loop fastening means for fastening the foot-covering portion releasably to itself when and where folded onto itself, at any position within a range of possible positions.

19. (New) The protective boot of claim 18 having a hook-and-loop strap drawn around the protective boot and fastened to itself and to said fastening means.

20. (New) The protective boot of claim 19 having two hook-and-loop straps, each drawn around the protective boot and fastened to itself and to said fastening means.

21. (New) The protective boot of claim 20 wherein one said strap is drawn around the foot-covering portion, between the toe end and the ankle-covering portion, and the other strap is drawn around the ankle-covering portion.
